26 April
At Sea

Dearest Mother -

I know - it has been a long time since you last heard from me because I haven't written since the 6th of April. We got into Yokosuka the 8th. Mom - someday I'll have to tell you about that day - what I thought, saw, felt - etc. We're almost back to Inchon now. In fact - I can see it in the distance - lots of ships in that harbor.

27 April
Inchon - 0430

— Back again. We had a security station - air raid warning - then after that I just didn't get back to this letter. By the time the all clear sounded we were almost ready to drop anchor, then it was time for embarkation of patients from the Jutlandia (their turn for Rok) then I had to sleep awhile since I'm

back on night duty. We don't have many patients and we've had only one flight quarters - that was a medical patient. Things are busy though. You can hear the thunder of the heavy artillery and see their red flashes; there is an LST about a "sea-block" from us that has been busy all night unloading supplies to those "ducks" - amphibians trucks - They come down as a convoy from someplace near the top of Volini-Do and you can watch them winding their way down, then they bump up and down 2 or 3 times and you know they are in the water. From there they continue, in a convoy, - slowly and farther apart - circle around the LST, pick up their supplies, and head back for the shore. In case you are wondering - there is a huge, bright moon; all our lights are on, and all the LST's lights are on - which is why we can see all

this going on. — Things look a little more inhabitable, from here anyway, on the shore. You can see a few cherry trees in bloom, and here and there a budding rice paddy — otherwise it's just as bleak as before.

Japan was gloriously beautiful. I had always wanted to see it at Cherry Blossom time — and I did. Tokyo was warm, clear, and even smelled clean the day we were there. I had a date with Floyd Norris and we had all day off (after 9 pm anyway) so we had plenty of time for sight seeing. We took a long ride through ~~town~~ the city! and around the Emperor's Palace, through their large park which would remind you of Central Park in New York except that it isn't quite as big - but it has cherry trees! It was

such a lovely day and we had such a nice time. I did a lot of traveling this time - even got up into the Nippon Alps where there was lots of snow - but it was so quiet, so peaceful - and so restful. I forgot, for awhile, where I had been and what I had seen, and enjoyed being just me. By the time R+R was over, I was back to my old self again. We were all anxious to get back to work, and those last 5 days in Yokosuka really dragged.

Mother, I hope you like what I have sent you for your birthday. Sis sorry I didn't have a card to put in with it at the time. Sis sending you something else too. The natural color raw silk shirt is for Johnnie, the gray for Raymond. I do hope they fit. If they don't - maybe Bobby could wear one of them and you could give the other one away.

I bought jewelry for the girls, (Bette and Betty) and toys for Pete a doll and a kimono for Pamela. The table cloth Dr's sending you isn't at all expensive, but I want you to use it, tell me what you think of it and let me know if it's pretty enough for me to buy another one. - it cost $5.20 - Would you like pure silk for a dress? They have it plain in all colors, and there are also some beautiful printed patterns. It costs 85¢ a yd. 36 inch width - $1.00 for the 54 inch widths. - as to china - maybe Dr's nuts, but I think your Lenox pattern (what the heck is the name of it?) is by far the prettiest Dixie Lees, - and I don't think you can beat the American pottery patterns for every day use, so as far as I am concerned - Japanese

china is a waste of money. They do have some prettier patterns in silver-plated dinner ware ("sterling") at reasonable prices - thought I might get some. Also, there is a very good buy in a silver coffee service - plain but lovely - that I think you would like and I could have later! The coffee pot is more like a pitcher (with a lid) - very graceful. - about the raw silk - they make beautiful drapes too. Your birthday present, by the way, is an antique something or other and is of white jade, - something you don't see much of these days - or so she told me. It was the closest thing to a cup that I saw.

Mother, I also wondered if you would like some camel's hair wool for a new winter coat. You could ask Mrs. Meyers how much it would take, let me get the material from

Hong Kong and send it to you. If you would ~~have~~ send your measurements, I could have it made, but I don't think we would save much money on the tailoring. Price camel's hair there someplace and let me know. Im ordering samples and getting a price list from Hong Kong through a Doctor-friend of mine aboard the Bairoqoe - they just got back from there. We are hoping to get a clearance to go down ourselves on our next R+R - after we debark our patients at Yokusuka. - We've all got our fingers crossed. I would like to get each of the boys a jacket for their birthdays - Talk them into sending me their measurements will you?

Mother - did you ever get any money from Frank Smith for my car? - And if so - did you have

Maybelle buy me a pig? If you didn't get the money, let me know.

I wrote Raymond & Bette and asked them to send me several things - intending to mail the letter after we got here and I could buy a money order, but I got carried away somehow and mailed the damned thing. Tell them I'm sending it though.

Johnnie and Betty sent me a pretty yellow nylon slip that has done wonders for my morale. Would you ask Raymond and Betty if they would buy a couple of bouquets of artificial flowers - one mixed, the other "I-don't-care-what-color" color to send along with the lipstick, solid cologne & pan-cake make-up? I'll send enough money to cover all.

I'm sorry too about Ed Eckstein's marriage. When did that happen? I've wondered & wondered about him since I've been over here. - Thought I might run into them someplace in Japan. Didn't she come over here

with him? She could have — easily.

The building fund sounds great. I plan to contribute my full share. I enjoy the steeple so much. Please tell Rev. Travis that I particularly enjoyed his brother-in-law's letter re the atomic bomb.

Too bad about the Finley deal. I sent them a card. I do hope it turns out "for the best". Tell Mr. Finley that after this little jaunt, a table at his club would be most appreciated some evening — especially if the invitation included a swim. (Providing it's warm while I'm there!) Ask him if I could have a martini, or are they allowed to serve them?!

What in the world do you suppose is wrong with Harlow? Gosh. I hope he straightens up.

I would really like to know about the car money and the pig

Mother – don't forget.

I bought Mrs. Calvert an ivory ~~fa~~ fan. I wanted to send her something but I didn't know just what. Would you like one too? Very inexpensive – $2.50 in fact, but it's pretty.

Well Dear Heart – do keep the laundry going – but don't work too hard. I read in Stars & Stripes today that Texas Oklahoma & Kansas had had heavy rains & hail. Hope it didn't ruin your flowers –

Please write when you can.

Lots & love,

Your daughter.